

Chichikogusa

Chapter 31

BY TAGAMA AN

Antisense Scanslations

Translations - Ferdyndel

Cleaning/Lettering - Arlene

OCing - TheStrayones

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☆ IT'S THE 6
TH VOLUME/
MY DAUGHTER
WAS ONLY A BABY
WHEN I STARTED
THIS SERIES, BUT
SOMEHOW SHE'S
OLDER THAN SHIROU
NOW! I'M ALWAYS
SURPRISED BY HOW
FAST CHILDREN
GROW.

—TAGAWA MI



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【父子版】

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WE MEET SHIORI'S FATHER,
FUNADO. KNOWING TORAKICHI'S
CIRCUMSTANCES AT WORK,
FUNADO GIVES TORAKICHI A
SUGGESTION. TORAKICHI WANTS
TO THINK IT OVER, AND TRIES
TO ASK HIS SISTER FOR ADVICE
WHEN HE RETURNS HOME WITH
SHIROU FOR OBON* BUT...

*OBON IS AN ANNUAL JAPANESE
BUDDHIST EVENT TO HONOR THE
SPIRITS OF ONE'S ANCESTORS



STORY I SHOULDN'T
HAVE HEARD

THAT
SHE'D LONG
WISHED FOR.

KANA WAS
FINALLY
BLESSED
WITH THE
CHILD.

PURE BOY

THIS
AGAIN.

YOU
WANNA
FIGHT??

WHAT
WAS
THAT??

WELL,
YOUNG L.

YOU'RE
MISHEARING.

SHE
SAID SHE
WAS HAPPY
THAT YOUR
MEDICINE
WORKED.

"WELL, I
WOULD BE
HAPPY YOU
THOUGH."

YOU
MOUNTAIN
MONKEY
WOMAN!
YOU'LL
NEVER HAVE
OFFERS OF
MARRIAGE!

EVERYTHING
EXCEPT FOR
THE FACT THAT
KANA SPENT
SO LONG ON IT
WAS JUST A
CONVENIENT
LIE.

THAT WAS
JUST A
PLACEBO.

WAAAAH

YOUNG L?

HEH?

?

IF MEDICINE
FOR SOMETHING
LIKE THAT
REALLY EXISTED,
WE WOULD BE
ROLLING IN
MONEY.

IT'S
PRETTY
DULL,
ISN'T IT?

?

KEISUKE'S
NOT FIGHTING
MANY FIGHTS
WITH ME
LATELY.

TAKE CARE



SEE YOU!

TORA AND SHIROU ARE LEAVING TOMORROW

CALCULATING

HE GOT INTO FIGHTS EVERY DAY AND SKIPPED CLASSES. OFTEN

YOUNG SAMURAI-MON

A DELINQUENT WHO COULDN'T FIT IN TO HIS FATHER'S HOMEWORK



I'M SORRY THAT I COULDN'T PROTECT YOUR MOTHER

HA HA HA!



A PRODIGY WHO SKIPPED SCHOOL BECAUSE THE CLASSES WERE TOO EASY

YOUNG SQUIRREL



DON'T WORRY

TAKE CARE OF MY SISTER, OKAY?



STOP FOLLOWING ME AROUND!

TRY USING THIS MEDICINE FOR YOUR ITCH.

THEY BECAME GOOD FRIENDS IMMEDIATELY BECAUSE...



PLEASE, MARRY ME!

A YOUNG LADY

THAT HAD THE REASON HE WAS FOLLOWING ME AROUND BACK THEN WAS BECAUSE OF THIS, HA!



PLEASE, DON'T PUSH YOURSELF.



ちちこぐさ



【父子篇】





CHAPTER 31: SHORT'S FATHER

CHAPTER 32: SUMMER HOMECOMING

CHAPTER 33: VILLAGE KIDS AND PLAYING IN THE RIVER

CHAPTER 34: TATSUMI AND TORAKICHI (PART 1)

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CHAPTER 36: FORWARD





CHICHIKOGUSA

[FATHER AND CHILD GRASS]



AUTHOR: TAGAWA MI



CHAPTER 31 - SHIORI'S FATHER

WHILE I WAS AN
EMPLOYEE IN THE
TRADING COMPANY
STARTED BY THE
MINESHI FAMILY,
MASTER MASA-
TAKA, THE HEAD
OF THE FAMILY,
BECAME FOND
OF ME.

LONG AGO,
I WAS TAKEN
INTO THE
HEALTHY
MINESHI FAMILY
AS A SON-IN-
LAW.

LATER, I TOOK
THE MINESHI
FAMILY'S ONLY
DAUGHTER AS
MY WIFE.



ONE
OF THEM
WAS MY
DAUGHTER,
SHORI.

BEFORE
LONG, I WAS
BLESSED WITH
TWO CHILDREN.



SHE HAD
A VERY KIND
PERSONALITY,
UNLIKE HER
MOTHER, WHO
WAS VERY
SENSITIVE AND
HOT-TEMPERED.



SHORI
WAS A CHILD
THAT LAUGHED
OFTEN.

MY DAUGHTER
DID EXACTLY
WHAT HER
MOTHER TOLD
HER.

RESTRAIN
YOURSELF,
PLEASE.

MY
POOR
LITTLE
BOY...

DON'T DO
ANYTHING
YOUR SICKLY
BROTHER
CAN'T DO
OKAY?

BE A
GOOD
GIRL.

IN ORDER TO
AVOID MAKING
HER UNSTABLE
MOTHER SAD
OR ANGRY...

I NEVER ASKED
MY DAUGHTER'S
TRUE FEELINGS.



I WAS
REASSURED
BECAUSE MY
WIFE AND MY
SICKLY SON
HAD MY
GOOD-
NATURED
DAUGHTER
WITH THEM,
AND I EN-
TRUSTED
THEM TO
HER.



I WAS
BUSY WITH
MY WORK
AROUND THAT
TIME, SO I
OFTEN LEFT
THE HOUSE
FOR 1 OR 2
YEARS AT A
TIME.





HUG





*IN THE JAPANESE, MAMAKI CALLS TORAKOJI "TORA-CHAN" AND HER FATHER, WHO IS APPARENTLY REALLY CONFUSED, CALLS HIM TORA-CHAN-KUN



WHAT ON EARTH WERE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH MY DAUGHTER?



MY FATHER WAS THE ONE THAT BROUGHT ME HERE.

TORA, IT'S ALL RIGHT

SO...



MY WIFE HAD ALREADY ARRANGED FOR MY DAUGHTER TO BE MARRIED

FATHER, PLEASE STOP! I ASKED TORA TO TAKE ME!



GRAB

WERE YOU PLANNING TO SECRETLY TAKE HER FAR OUT TO THE COUNTRYSIDE? DID YOU THINK YOU WOULDN'T BE FOUND OUT?



IF YOU TAKE HER LIKE THIS, DON'T YOU?

I'M SURE YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT WILL HAPPEN...



TO ME, HER
FATHER?

DO YOU
NOT HAVE
SOMETHING
TO SAY...



**I'M
VERY
SORRY!**

THRUST



**BUT I'M
ASKING YOU
EVEN THOUGH
I KNOW HOW
RUDE IT IS!**

**I AM WELL
AWARE THAT
I'M NOT IN
THE POSI-
TION TO BE
ASKING FOR
THIS.**



**LOVE
SHIORI!**

I, I...



SO...

**I PROMISED
HER WE'D BE
TOGETHER ONCE
I BECOME A
FULL-FLEDGED
SELLER.**

**I WILL
DEFINITELY
MAKE HER
HAPPY!**

MY AND MY
WIFE'S EYES WERE
ALWAYS LOOKING
ONLY AT OUR
SICKLY SON.

AND
THIS CHILD HAS
ALWAYS ACCEPTED
OUR DEMANDS
WITHOUT A SINGLE
COMPLAINT.

MADE MY
DAUGHTER
SUFFER SINCE
SHE WAS
YOUNG.

I
HAVE...

"I DON'T WANT
THE ENGAGEMENT
THAT MOTHER
DECIDED FOR ME."

"I HAVE
SOMEBODY
ELSE I WANT
TO BE WITH."

TODAY, FOR THE
FIRST TIME SHE
CRIED BEFORE ME
SAYING...



AND AT THAT
TIME, SHE WAS
LAUGHING WITH
A FACE I HAD
NEVER SEEN
BEFORE.



I SAW YOU 2
OR 3 TIMES
WHEN YOU CAME
TO VISIT MY
DAUGHTER.

I KNEW ABOUT
YOU, LIKE THE FACT
THAT YOU WERE A
DEALER WITH A
GOOD REPUTATION.



FATHER...?



BOTH OF YOU,
PUT OUT YOUR
LEFT HANDS.





GHOSH, I WAS
GOING TO GIVE
IT TO YOU THE
DAY YOU GOT
MARRIED...

IT WAS
GIVEN TO ME
BY A JEWELER
ACQUAINTANCE
IN EUROPE



?!

IN THE WEST, THOSE
WHO HAVE BECOME A
MARRIED COUPLE PUT
THE RINGS ON EACH
OTHER, APPARENTLY



I'M VERY
SORRY THAT
WE PUSHED
YOU THIS
FAR.

I WILL PER-
SUADE YOUR
MOTHER.



THIS WAS
THE LAST TIME
I SAW MY
DAUGHTER.

I'M
SORRY...

FATHER!

AND
THANK YOU
SO MUCH!





I SINCERELY HOPE
THAT THERE WILL
BE A DAY YOU CAN
EMBRACE THIS
CHILD OF MINE...

PLEASE TAKE
CARE OF
YOURSELVES.

SHORI



BUT
THEN...

MASTER,
A
LETTER
...



EVEN
THOUGH
WE ARE
SEPA-
RATED.

I WAS
SATISFIED AS
LONG AS MY
DAUGHTER
WAS HEALTHY
AND HAPPY.







BUT...

I HAVE NO
RIGHT TO
HATE YOU...



IT WOULD BE
A LIE IF I SAID
THAT I DIDN'T
FEEL THAT THEY
WERE SOMEHOW
TO BLAME.

WHERE SHOULD
I PLACE THIS
OVERWHELMING
SORROW...?!

AFTER OUR DAUGHTER'S
DEATH, ALL RELATIONS
BETWEEN BOTH FAMILIES
WERE CUT COMPLETELY,
AND THE DAYS AND
MONTHS PASSED BY
LIFELESSLY.

HER DISSATISFAC-
TION AND ANGER
TOWARDS OUR
DAUGHTER HAD
TURNED INTO
HATRED TOWARDS
DEAR TORA

MY WIFE
DID NOT
EVEN GO
TO THE
FUNERAL

UNTIL LAST
YEAR, HE'D
KEPT HIM WITH
HIS SISTER,
BUT...

YES.

FOR SOME
REASON, HE
SUDDENLY
BROUGHT HIM
ALONG.

WITH HIS
CHILD?

OF COURSE, IT'S
A LITTLE LIMITING
FOR OUR SHOP,
BUT WELL...
WHAT CAN YOU
DO, RIGHT?

ACCORDING TO
FRIENDS I'VE
ASKED FOR IN-
FORMATION,
THEY'RE DOING
WELL TOGETHER.

MOST LIKELY
NOT. IT HAS
ONLY BEEN TWO
AND A HALF
YEARS SINCE
YOUR DAUGHTER
WAS DRESSED
AWAY.

MORE-
OVER,

HAS HE
THOUGHT
ABOUT A
SECOND
WIFE...?







ONE SIMPLE IT











AND THEY'RE
GOING TO LIMIT
THE CHOICES YOU
CAN MAKE IN THE
FUTURE AS WELL.
IF THAT'S THE
CASE, I CAN NO
LONGER FEEL
THAT WAY.

BUT YOUR
MEMORIES OF
HER ARE WHAT
MADE YOU
CHOOSE THE
UNUSUAL PATH
OF A TRAVELING
FATHER-AND-
CHILD.



I'M THANKFUL
THAT YOU STILL
LOVE MY DAUGHTER
TO THIS DAY.



1134 FUYUKA



CAN FORGET
ABOUT HER.
IT'S OKAY.

YOU...



I WAS ALMOST
BROUGHT TO TEARS
WHEN I HEARD YOU
WERE RAISING THE
CHILD ALONE.

I ONLY
HAVE WORDS
OF ADMIRATION
FOR YOU.



BUT AREN'T THERE
SOME THINGS THAT
YOU CAN EASE BY
FINDING A NEW
COMPANION?



THERE'S
SOMEONE I
HAVE IN MIND
WHO MIGHT
SUIT YOU.

CONTACT ME IF
YOU'RE EVER
INTERESTED.
I'LL INTRODUCE
YOU.







I CAN NO
LONGER THINK
OF HIM AS A
GRANDSON.

I HAVE NO
INTENTION OF
MEETING HIM
AT THIS
POINT.



PLEASE DON'T
TELL HIM ABOUT
MY EXISTENCE,
EITHER.

OUR MARRIAGE
WAS ARRANGED.

THE
OWNER AND
HIS WIFE



THE PREVIOUS OWNER
OFTEN GRUMBLED THAT
THE STOSE COULD NOT
BE ENTRUSTED TO HIM.

HE WAS
SUCH A
PLAYBOY.

WHEN HE FIRST
MET, HE HAD A
FLASHY APPEAR-
ANCE AND LAUGHED
CARELESSLY.



BUT,



NOWADAYS,
HE NO LONGER
ESCAPES REALITY
WITH FLIRTING



HEY.

DEEP DOWN
HE'S ACTUALLY
A DILIGENT AND
TIMID MAN

YOU'LL
BE FINE.

AM I REALLY
SUITED TO
BE THE
OWNER...?

So?

So?



IS IT
TORA AGAIN
HE'LL MANAGE
SOMEHOW.

I HAVE
NOTHING
TO SAY.

BUT THE FACT
THAT HE COMES TO
SHUGGLE WHEN HE'S
TROUBLED ABOUT
WORK HASN'T
CHANGED

